

**Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 6, 2020; 5:00 PM**  
**Via Teleconference Due to COVID19/Corona Virus State of CT Public Health Emergency**

**Direct link to the recording:**

**Y&FS Commission Meetings:** <https://youtu.be/taKkRwYvLq4>

*“To collaboratively support and advocate for positive relationships in an inclusive community”*

<b>I. Roll Call</b>	<p><b>Attendant Members:</b>  Mike Rafferty, Chair; Michael Spera, Chief of Police; Lisa Castro, Old Saybrook Middle School Counselor; Mary Ann Iadarola, Public Nursing Board Representative; David Plotkin, Community At-Large Member; Jeff Harder, Community At-Large Member</p> <p><b>Absent Members:</b> Jonathan Paradis, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation</p> <p><b>Student Representatives:</b> Libby Stuart, Joe Bradley, Kyle Wisialowski  <b>Absent Student Representatives:</b> n/a  <b>Attendant Staff:</b>  Heather McNeil, Executive Director  Angela Gaidry, Commission Clerk  Alyssa Pelletier, Student Intern</p>
<b>II. Call to Order</b>	<p>Meeting called to order at 5:04 PM.  Pledge of Allegiance</p>
<b>III. Comments from the Public</b>	<p>No one from the public was present.</p>
<b>IV. Approval of Minutes</b>	<p><b>Motion</b> made by D. Plotkin to approve the minutes of Tuesday, September 1, 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by L. Castro and approved.</p>
<b>V. Chairman's Comments</b>	<p>M. Rafferty- Holiday Giving Campaign extended offer of help from commission. Strategic Plan- very informative; encourage commission members to read it  Advocacy/Publicity Committee- looking for volunteers to get the word out through publications such as Saybrook Events (J. Harder and M. Rafferty)  Grant Writing Committee – interested J. Harder, D. Plotkin.  OSMS Students- propose introducing these students now to YFS commission in order to engage and have them onboard by high school</p>
<b>VI. Director's Report for 10/06/2020</b>	<p><b>Interns</b>  H. McNeil introduced commission members to intern Alyssa Pelletier (MFT, CCSU). Alyssa was a student in H. McNeil's Ethics class and is looking forward to learning at YFS. Seven (7) interns at YFS. YFS is a positive experience for interns to gain experience in community and clinical expertise through staff. Virtual group planned (w/school guidance staff) – Mental Health</p> <p><b>Hazen Huddle</b>  Camp Hazen was a bit different this year. A group of 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students to engage in YAC leadership skill building; asked “what do you want to do during this time?” YFS Interns involved.  J. Bradley: Wed 9/30/20 – after ½ day at school took van/bus to Camp Hazen for pizza, group activities/challenges, direction of YAC?  Recurring consensus from students was that they did not want virtual meetings or activities but in-person face-to-face connections.  YAC Pasta Dinner scheduled Oct 23, 2020 @ 4:30-6:30pm  Masonic Hall (5<sup>th</sup> year) Chef Tony instrumental in facilitating this event.  YAC students unanimously decided to share some proceeds with H.E.A.T.</p>

	<p><b>4-Core Measures Survey</b> This has been done since 1997. November 2017 was the last time. H. McNeil hoping to discuss with superintendent a process for giving some aspect of the survey – wish to include 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.</p> <p><b>After School Groups</b> Due to low enrollment this year, instead of weekly sessions, YFS coordinators will work to schedule special events on ½ days or no school days.</p> <p><b>New Program/Series Launch</b> Community and Family Engagement (C.A.F.E.) Interactive conversations with community and trained professionals. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> 6-7:15PM Understanding Stress in Early Childhood (Early Childhood Consultation Partnership) Upcoming Adult Mental Health Council Police Department program (upcoming November 2020)</p> <p><b>Holiday Giving Program</b> (deadline November 18, 2020) Sign-up event Thursday, Oct 29 4:30-6:00 pm (w/Bilingual officer available) Work with school support staff to spread the word (L. Castro, D. Plotkin, etc.) In conjunction with the Turkey Drive at police department (distribution Nov 23-24) Gift donations (gift cards, police dept-logistics re: toys)</p> <p><b>E3</b> J. Bradley – E3 through Gov. Prevention Partnership. Programs include student mental health, underage drinking, last year’s vaping assembly, community sticker shock. With past recognition, this year Old Saybrook’s E3 has been asked to lead/mentor other E3 groups- act as a model. Awarded a grant from America’s Promise, E3 created “Crafty Connections” via Zoom to instruct younger students in various crafts each week. Next project under discussion student mental health PSA.</p>
<b>VII. Old Business</b>	Nothing to report.
<b>VIII. New Business</b>	<b>Action steps and advocacy or report on initiatives by Commission members</b> Next YFS Commission meeting November 10 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>IX. Other Business</b>	Nothing to report.
<b>X. Adjournment</b>	<b>Motion</b> made by M. Spera to adjourn the meeting at 5:38PM. The motion was seconded by M. Iadarola and approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Gaidry, Recording Clerk